

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
EARL WARREN, Governor
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WARREN T. HANNUM, Director



DIVISION OF MINES
Ferry Building, San Francisco 11
OLAF P. JENKINS, Chief

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ANNUAL STATISTICAL ISSUE

MINING AND INDUSTRIAL NEWS NOTES

Granite Operation in San Bernardino County

Finished granite slabs, for use on new buildings which are being erected by the University of California at both the Los Angeles and La Jolla campuses, are being produced by W. H. Johnson and Company at Victorville. The granite used was obtained from the Company's quarries near Lucerne Valley. The finishing plant at Victorville includes complete equipment for sawing, shaping, and polishing granite for use as structural and ornamental stone.

New Custom Mill for Tungsten Ore near Bishop, Inyo County

A new custom mill for tungsten ore has recently been installed by Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation at Pine Creek, near Bishop. Ores containing scheelite or scheelite and powellite will be purchased providing they contain at least 0.4 percent WO_3 ; however, a minimum grade of 0.5 percent WO_3 is preferred. An 18" by 36" Taylor jaw crusher will be used for primary crushing of outside ores. Crushed ore will enter the Company's standard mill after passing through a vibrating screen which is in closed circuit with a Symons shorthread crusher. The purchase price, according to the Mining Department, Electro Metallurgical Division, Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, will be f.o.b. the Pine Creek plant, and will be based on the current selling price of ferro-tungsten. The new installation was expected to be in operation by February 1, 1951.

New Tungsten Operation in San Bernardino County

Approximately 30 tons of crude ore per day is being shipped from the recently discovered Starbright tungsten deposit, located about 25 miles north of Barstow. The deposit was discovered in the spring of 1950 by Mr. A. C. Lambert of Barstow, California, and has been actively mined since August 1950. It is being worked by the Mineral Materials Company of Alhambra, California.

The ore body, which is reported to average approximately 3 percent WO_3 , is principally a friable garnet-rich tactite containing disseminated scheelite. It occurs in metamorphosed limestone surrounded by granitic rock. The outcrop of the deposit is about 100 feet long and has a maximum width of about 40 feet. At present the ore is being mined by open cut methods, the work being done at night, so that ultraviolet light may be used to check the ore extracted. The ore is trucked to Bishop for concentration. Plans are being made to core drill the deposit in the near future.